President.—Is it the step that is referred to there? What is the step that easily strikes you that the Government should take?

Mr. I. E. Ambooken.—I do not know. There are several steps. One is, by means of liberal payment to try to reserve fish manure or to impose an export duty so that the vast export that is conducted now may be discouraged.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—And if there are no local merchants to purchase them?

Mr. I. E. Ambooken.—There is a great export of fish manure, and so to put a stop to that some steps should be taken. I ask whether the Government cannot impose an export duty on them.

President.—The question of levying an export duty has not been considered. I do not know whether the Government have any such power to impose export duty. I must ask my Government Advocate.

Mr. I. E. Ambooken.—My question is, is there any step taken by Government to check the export, because by exporting it local men are unable to purchase it at a moderate price.

President.—It is a commercial problem.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—It is very difficult to answer now. We can consider it later on.

Mr. I. E. Ambooken.—It is stated that the remedy is with the agriculturists themselves. That is they can purchase it for their own money.

Will the Government be pleased to direct the Agricultural Department to invest an amount of money to deal with the business of purchasing the manure and distributing them to the agriculturists?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—That is impossible.

President.—That is not a supplementary question.

Statistics regarding the export of fish manure.

457. Mr. I. E. Ambooken.—Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have any statistics to show how much fish guano and other fish manure which have gone out of the State in the last year?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—The answer is in the negative.

The opening of manure depots.

458. Mr. I. E. Ambooken.—Will the Government be pleased to state whether they will be pleased to direct the Superintendent of Agriculture and Panchayats to open manure depots in all villages where there are Panchayats throughout the State?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—The Government do not consider it necessary to issue the direction referred to; those Panchayats which are desirous of having manure depots opened under their management may apply to the Superintendent of Agriculture and Panchayats who will dispose of each application on its own merits.

The opening of Model Farms.

Mr. I. E. Ambooken.—Will the Government be pleased to state whether they will take steps to open Model Farms for the cultivation of cocoanut and paddy at least one in each taluk in the State?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—The Agricultural Department is not at present working with the full staff of Inspectors sanctioned. When it works with the full staff, and when it is equipped with a Laboratory for the analysis of soils, the matter will be considered.

The Veterinary Inspector in Kunnamkulam.

460. Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(a) The number of days in a month the Veterinary Inspector will remain in Kunnamkulam;

(b) Whether any satisfactory arrangement has been made for treatment during his absence from the place; and if so,

(c) What is the arrangement now made?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—(a) Ten.

(b) & (c) The member is referred to the answer to question No. 53 at the Vrischigam sitting.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Is there a competent compounder at Kunnamkulam?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—One is being trained. There is one at Vadakkancheri. There is a compounder at Vadakkancheri going to Kunnamkulam and doing the work.

President. So you say that there is no permanent compounder permanently staying at Kunnamkulam.

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—There is one at Kunnamkulam.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Does he remain there while the Veterinary Surgeon is absent from the station?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—My point is this. There is one compounder for the Kunnamkulam Hospital. He is not fully qualified. One is being specially trained for the Kunnamkulam Hospital.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—I am not referring to the future statistics, but to the present one. Is there any one at present at Kunnamkulam, apart from the one being trained for the purpose?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Yes.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly